

Docket No. 99-NM-328 (9-22/9-23)" (RIN2120-AA64) (1999-0363), received September 24, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5412. A communication from the Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Model F.28 Mark 0070 and 0100 Series Airplanes; Docket No. 99-NM-329 (9-22/9-23)" (RIN2120-AA64) (1999-0364), received September 24, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5413. A communication from the Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Robinson Helicopter Company Model R44 Helicopters; Request for Comments; Docket No. 99-SW-46 (9-22/9-23)" (RIN2120-AA64) (1999-035964), received September 24, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5414. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule Making Effective the Collection-of-Information Requirements in the Final Rule Implementing Procedures for the Testing and Certification of Bycatch Reduction Devices for the Use of Shrimp Trawls in the GOM" (RIN0648-AK32), received September 24, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5415. A communication from the Associate Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of Part 22 and Part 90 of the Commission's Rules to Facilitate Future Development of Paging Systems, WT Docket 96-18, Implementation of Section 309(j) of the Communications Act-Competitive Bidding, PR Docket No. 93-253" (WTB Doc. 96-18, FCC 99-98), received September 24, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5416. A communication from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Addition of Mexico to the List of Countries Eligible to Export Poultry Products into the United States" (RIN0583-AC33), received September 22, 1999; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5417. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Public Housing Agency Plans; Change in Plan Submission Dates-Final Rule Amendment" (RIN2577-AB89) (FR-4420-F-04), received September 22, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5418. A communication from the Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the financial statements of the Colorado River Basin Project for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5419. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting,

pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Public Participation in Coal Leasing" (RIN1004-AD27), received September 24, 1999; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5420. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Contractor Use of Nonimmigrant Aliens-Guam" (DFARS Case 97-D318), received September 24, 1999; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5421. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reform of Affirmative Action in Federal Procurement, Part II" (DFARS Case 98-D021), received September 24, 1999; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5422. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the receipt and use of federal funds by candidates who accepted public financing for the 1996 Presidential primary elections; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-5423. A communication from the Deputy Archivist, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safeguarding Classified National Security Information" (RIN3095-AA95), received September 24, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-5424. A communication from the Legal Counsel, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Sector Equal Employment Opportunity" (RIN3046-AA66), received September 21, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5425. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Listing of Color Additives for Coloring Bone Cement; FD&C Blue No. 2-Aluminum Lake on Alumina", received September 21, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5426. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indirect Food Additives: Adhesives and Components of Coatings" (cf99129), received September 21, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5427. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indirect Food Additives: Adjuvants, Production Aids, and Sanitizers", received September 21, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5428. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indirect Food Additives: Adjuvants, Production Aids, and Sanitizers", received September 21, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5429. A communication from the Acting Regulations Officer, Office of Process and In-

novation Management, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Administrative Review Process; Prehearing Procedures and Decisions by Attorney Advisors; Extension of Expiration Dates" (RIN0960-AF07), received September 24, 1999; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5430. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revision, San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District South Coast Air Quality Management District" (FRL #6445-6), received September 24, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled "Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2000" (Rept. No. 106-165).

By Mr. SPECTER, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 1650: An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. ROBB (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 1645. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to establish a 5-year pilot program under which certain aliens completing an advanced degree in mathematics, science, engineering, or computer science are permitted to change non-immigrant classification in order to remain in the United States for a 5-year period for the purpose of working in one of those fields, and to foster partnerships between public schools and private industry to improve mathematics, science, and technology education in public schools; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. BAYH, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1646. A bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to improve the coverage of needy children under the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and the Medicaid Program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COVERDELL (for himself and Mr. CLELAND):

S. 1647. A bill to amend the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 to remove a restriction on the eligibility of certain activities for funding from the Highway Trust Fund; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. GORTON, and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 1648. A bill to amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to take certain actions if the European Union does not reduce and subsequently eliminate agricultural export subsidies; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. MACK, and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 1649. A bill to provide incentives for States to establish and administer periodic teacher testing and merit pay programs for elementary school and secondary school teachers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 1650. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. GORTON, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. CRAIG, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1651. A bill to amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to take certain actions if the European Union does not reduce and subsequently eliminate agricultural export subsidies; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CHAFEE (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. WARNER, Mr. THOMAS, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 1652. A bill to designate the Old Executive Office Building located at 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, in Washington, District of Columbia, as the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CHAFEE (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. LOTT, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. REID, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 1653. A bill to reauthorize and amend the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MACK (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 1654. A bill to protect the coast of Florida; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 1655. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to revise the criteria for designation as a critical access hospital; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 1656. A bill to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to permit children covered under a State child health plan (CHIP) to continue to be eligible for benefits under the vaccine for children program; to the Committee on Finance.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. BAYH, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1646. A bill to amend title XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to improve the coverage of needy children

under the State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and the Medicaid Program; to the Committee on Finance.

#### IMPROVED MATERNAL AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH COVERAGE ACT

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce the Improved Maternal and Children's Health Coverage Act. I am joined by my colleagues Senator LANDRIEU, Senator GORDON SMITH, Senator EVAN BAYH and Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN.

A similar bill was introduced in the House of Representatives by Congresswoman DEGETTE and Congresswoman MORELLA.

This legislation is intended to help increase the coverage of uninsured children under the Children's Health Insurance Program, better known as CHIP.

Right now there are 10.7 million uninsured children in the United States. The goal of CHIP is to insure 5 million children nationally.

However, we have only enrolled 1.3 million of the targeted 5 million children so far. We can do better. We must do better.

Let's get rid of barriers to coverage! There are several simple, administrative changes that we can make in this legislation that will help break down the barriers to enrollment.

First, we can reduce the need for excessive documentation. States would be required to develop and use a uniform, simplified application form to determine eligibility for both Medicaid and CHIP. This means families only have to fill out one form.

Second, families would only have to deal with one state agency to establish eligibility for either program. It is unfair to make parents go from agency to agency to enroll for state health insurance coverage.

Third, we can do a better job making a greater variety of application sites available to families. Rather than only being able to apply at a state agency, states could opt to expand application site options. Let's take the application process to the places that parents and their children go on a regular basis—examples include schools and child care centers.

This bill also expands health insurance coverage options to pregnant women who do not qualify for Medicaid because their incomes are slightly above Medicaid guidelines. Thousands of pregnant women earn just a bit too much to qualify for Medicaid, but they do not have health insurance because either their employer or their husband's employer doesn't offer it.

We all know the importance of prenatal care to the health of unborn children. If a mother receives proper prenatal care, her child has a much greater chance of being born healthy. That is why the National Academy of Pediatrics, the National Association of

Children's Hospitals and the March of Dimes—just to name a few organizations—support this legislation.

In an era of making every federal dollar stretch as far as possible, this provision makes sense. For every \$1 we spend on prenatal care, we save \$3 later on that would be spent on complicated deliveries and serious birth defects. Sometimes you have to spend money to save money.

Several years ago, the Arkansas governor and the state legislature implemented the AR Kids First health insurance program for children who did not qualify for Medicaid. AR Kids First precedes CHIP.

The statistics for enrollment in the CHIP program in Arkansas are a bit ahead of the national curve. So far, AR Kids First has enrolled half of all eligible children. Over 45,000 now have coverage as a result of the state's proactive efforts and commitment to children's health.

It has been so successful in enrolling eligible children for health insurance that the Department of Health and Human Services recently granted approval to allow AR Kids First to operate as the state's CHIP program.

I applaud their efforts and hope that other states can learn from the outreach success of AR Kids First.

Finally, this bill eliminates the sunset clause for a pot of money that Congress allocated for states to help them link families leaving welfare with the Medicaid and CHIP programs. As part of the 1996 welfare reform law, Congress gave \$500 million to states to see that families with children in the welfare system continue to receive health care coverage.

Prior to 1996, poor families with children automatically received health benefits through Medicaid when they signed up for AFDC. Since Congress passed welfare reform legislation, Medicaid and TANF are no longer legally connected. States must revamp their eligibility systems to see that families with children do not fall through the cracks.

There has been confusion between governors and the Department of Health and Human Services about the time period that this money could be spent.

States run the risk of losing this money just 2 days from now. On September 30th, 16 states are in jeopardy of losing this funding and 18 more states will lose funding by December 31, 1999.

So, as you see, this piece of the Maternal and Children's Health Coverage Act is critical—and timely.

I hope that the Congress and the President will act swiftly to eliminate the sunset clause and give states more time to spend this valuable pot of money.

Mr. President, Congress is currently engaged in a debate over the Patients'